



General Assembly

February Session, 2004

Raised Bill No. 148

LCO No. 1194

01194_____ET_

Referred to Committee on Energy and Technology

Introduced by:
(ET)

AN ACT CONCERNING DIRECT BILLING BY ELECTRIC SUPPLIERS.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Subsection (c) of section 16-244i of the general statutes is
2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective*
3 *October 1, 2004*):

4 (c) Each electric distribution company shall continue to provide
5 metering, billing and collection services, except that, on and after the
6 effective date of the regulations adopted pursuant to section 16-245d,
7 as amended, which allow an electric supplier to provide direct billing
8 and collection services for its customers, an electric distribution
9 company shall not provide billing and collection services for those
10 electric suppliers that choose to provide such services. The department
11 shall determine billing and metering protocols and any appropriate
12 cost-sharing allocations among electric distribution companies and
13 electric suppliers.

14 Sec. 2. Section 16-245d of the general statutes, as amended by
15 section 22 of public act 03-135, is repealed and the following is
16 substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2004*):

17 (a) The Department of Public Utility Control shall, by regulations
 18 adopted pursuant to chapter 54, develop a standard billing format that
 19 enables customers to compare pricing policies and charges among
 20 electric suppliers. Not later than January 1, 2005, the department shall
 21 adopt regulations, in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54, to
 22 provide that an electric supplier may provide direct billing and
 23 collection services for its customers. [On and after January 1, 2000,
 24 each] An electric company, [or] electric distribution company or
 25 electric supplier, as the case may be, shall, in accordance with the
 26 billing format developed by the department, include [at a minimum]
 27 the following information in each customer's bill, as appropriate: (1)
 28 The total amount owed by the customer, which shall be itemized to
 29 show, (A) the electric generation services component and any
 30 additional charges imposed by the electric supplier, if applicable, (B)
 31 the electric transmission and distribution charge, including all
 32 applicable taxes and the systems benefits charge, as provided in
 33 section 16-245l, as amended, (C) the competitive transition assessment,
 34 as provided in section 16-245g, as amended, (D) federally-mandated
 35 congestion costs, and (E) the conservation and renewable energy
 36 charge, consisting of the conservation and load management program
 37 charge, as provided in section 16-245m, as amended, and the
 38 renewable energy investment charge, as provided in section 16-245n,
 39 as amended; (2) any unpaid amounts from previous bills which shall
 40 be listed separately from current charges; (3) except for customers
 41 subject to a demand charge, the rate and usage for the current month
 42 and each of the previous twelve months in the form of a bar graph or
 43 other visual form; (4) the payment due date; (5) the interest rate
 44 applicable to any unpaid amount; (6) the toll-free telephone number of
 45 the electric distribution company to report power losses; (7) the toll-
 46 free telephone number of the Department of Public Utility Control for
 47 questions or complaints; (8) the toll-free telephone number and
 48 address of the electric supplier; and (9) a statement about the
 49 availability of information concerning electric suppliers pursuant to
 50 section 16-245p, as amended.

51 (b) The regulations shall provide guidelines for determining the
52 billing relationship between the electric distribution company and
53 electric suppliers, including but not limited to, the allocation of partial
54 bill payments and late payments between the electric distribution
55 company and the electric supplier. [The] An electric distribution
56 company that provides billing services for an electric supplier shall be
57 entitled to recover from the electric supplier all reasonable transaction
58 costs to provide such billing services as well as a reasonable rate of
59 return, in accordance with the principles in subsection (a) of section 16-
60 19e.

This act shall take effect as follows:	
Section 1	<i>October 1, 2004</i>
Sec. 2	<i>October 1, 2004</i>

Statement of Purpose:

To require the Department of Public Utility Control to promulgate regulations by January 1, 2005, that would allow electric suppliers to provide direct billing and collection services for its customers.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]